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PROCEEDINGS

June 3-9, 1915

FIRST GENERAL SESSION

(Thursday afternoon, June 3)

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH Annual Meeting of the American Library Association was called to order by President Wellman, in the Chemistry Annex Building of the University of California, on Thursday afternoon, June 3, 1915.

President Wellman, after appropriate words of greeting, introduced Mr. HENRY W. KENT, secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, who addressed the Association on

THE LOVE OF THE BOOK

(See p. 94)

Mr. EVERETT R. PERRY, librarian of the Los Angeles public library, read a paper on

BULLETINS AND LIBRARY PRINTING

(See p. 102)

Mr. T. M. CLELAND, of New York City, read a paper on

THE FINE ART OF PRINTING

(See p. 104)

following which the session was adjourned.

SECOND GENERAL SESSION

(Thursday evening, June 3, Hearst Hall, the Women's Gymnasium.)

The president introduced Mr. LIVINGSTON JENKS, president of the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco, and a member of the board of regents of the University of California, who welcomed the Association to Berkeley on behalf of the University and of the two oldest libraries in the state, now merged in the Mechanics'-Mercantile library conducted by the Mechanics' Institute. The speaker sketched briefly the history of these libraries from their organization in the early 50's to their merging in 1905. In 1906 the fire destroyed the entire collection of about 200,000 volumes, but out of the flames was born again the spirit of

the early pioneers, so that today the library is housed in a capacious building of its own and has already acquired some 60,000 volumes, a generous portion of which are suitable for general circulation, although the energies of the library are being directed toward technical development. "May your stay in Berkeley be pleasant as well as instructive. May you enjoy Berkeley, and San Francisco, and California, and when you leave, may it be with pleasant memories and a warm desire and determination soon to return again."

President WELLMAN, after thanking the speaker for his gracious words of welcome, delivered

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

(See p. 89)

The session then adjourned and the remainder of the evening was spent at an informal reception given by the authorities of the University of California.

THIRD GENERAL SESSION

(Friday morning, June 4, Chemistry Annex Building.)

The session was called to order by the president, who announced that the first business of the morning was the reception of various reports of officers and committees.*

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The conference year 1914-1915 has seen three Association records broken.

1) More members joined the A. L. A. than during any previous year in its history, the number for the calendar year of 1914 being 543; 2) the sales of the publi-

* With the exception of the reports of the Finance Committee, presented by Dr. C. W. Andrews, in the absence of the chairman, and of the Bookbuying Committee, read by the secretary, in the absence of the chairman, all the following reports had been distributed in print and were here read only by title.

cations of the publishing board were greater than ever before, reaching an aggregate, reported in detail in the publishing board report, of \$13,544.67; 3) the Washington conference with its attendance of 1,366 broke all previous conference attendance records.

Chicago headquarters.—The Association is now in its sixth year of occupancy of the commodious, convenient and altogether agreeable quarters so generously provided by the directors of the Chicago Public Library in their central building, and each recurring annual reference to their liberal open-handed action carries with it greater appreciation of the service they are rendering to American library interests and deeper gratitude for the tokens of courtesy and kindly feeling constantly evidenced by the entire staff of the Chicago Public Library. As heretofore expressed it is furthermore a great boon to have the executive office located in such proximity to a large and choice collection of reference books.

Work at the executive offices.—In last year's report the secretary gave in rough grouping the principal activities at headquarters in order to acquaint the membership with the nature of the work performed. As this year's report is presented at almost the opposite side of our country and consequently largely to a different group of members, and as the same grouping still represents the duties of those employed by the Association, it is repeated in this report:

(a) Editing and publishing the official Bulletin, issued bi-monthly, through which the membership is kept informed of the plans and work of the Association and its committees. One number is entirely devoted to the Proceedings of the annual meeting, and another to the Handbook, containing lists of officers, committees, members, etc.

(b) Editing and publishing the A. L. A. Booklist, a monthly guide to the selection and purchase of the best of the current books. This work is conducted by an editor (Miss May Massee) and a corps

of assistants, who devote their entire time to this periodical.

(c) Publishing and sale of all publications of the Association.⁶

(d) Correspondence on all phases of library work, the executive office acting, so far as it is able, as a clearing house of library information.

(e) Co-operation with the Association committees, library commissions, state library associations and library clubs and other national educational and civic associations.

(f) Promoting better library architecture by collecting and loaning plans of library buildings.

(g) Promoting general publicity of the aims and activities of the Association and library work at large.

As in previous years correspondence is the heaviest item. About 25,000 pieces of first-class mail have been sent out and over 35,000 pieces of circular mail, in addition to our two periodicals, the Booklist and the Bulletin. More questionnaires, circulars, committee material, etc., have been sent out this year than ever before.

Membership.—We have now passed the 3,000 mark in membership and are well on toward another thousand mile stone. Campaigning for new members is steady and interspersed with all other work. Since January first of the present year 133 personal members, 39 library members and one new life member have joined. We hardly hope to exceed last year's record but as this is written we have no way of knowing how many California librarians may join at the Berkeley conference. But we are constantly emphasizing that attendance at conferences is far from being all there is to membership. Inclusion of one's name in the Handbook, which is practically used as a directory of library workers, and personal possession of the Proceedings are important factors.

Publishing Board.—Much of the time and energy of the headquarters staff are, of course, devoted to the operations of the Publishing Board, but as these activities

are treated in the report of the chairman of the board, elsewhere printed, it is unnecessary here to do more than make this brief reminder of them.

The A. L. A. Booklist.—The editorial offices of the Booklist have now been combined with A. L. A. headquarters for nearly two years, and the experimental stage has passed. Regarding editorial advantages in Chicago the editor is better qualified to speak and has frequently voiced appreciation of and satisfaction with the support given her by Chicago institutions and individuals. It is only necessary for me to supplement her words by adding that from the business point of view it is even more satisfactory to have editorial and publishing offices under one roof than we had anticipated. The Booklist is showing steady although not rapid growth in circulation. Plans for an extensive campaign among high school libraries in the fall are being made.

Publicity.—We have made exceptional efforts at newspaper publicity the past eighteen months but thus far the results have been far from satisfactory. At the Washington conference a publicity committee of three gave trained and systematic attention to the subject employing a newspaper expert to assist. Very little news about the conference appeared, however, in papers outside Washington, but this may have been due to an acute crisis in the Mexican situation that monopolized front pages that week. Mr. W. H. Kerr, the present chairman of publicity, devoted practically his entire time to press work during the Chicago mid-winter meetings. A number of well-written articles were given to the press representatives but only a little actually appeared, except on the one subject of newspaper reading in libraries, and this article was so garbled as to make it of doubtful value. Mr. Kerr will have charge of publicity work at the Berkeley conference, and as we are already working in co-operation with the news bureau of the Exposition we hope to achieve some material result. The secretary gives frequent news items to the

Associated Press. Occasionally these are used, but not widely. Libraries of the country, however, secure a vast amount of aggregate space in their local papers. The headquarters office subscribes to a clipping bureau and receives daily from fifty to seventy-five articles clipped from papers all over the United States and Canada giving news of their respective local libraries. It cannot therefore be said that libraries receive no attention from newspapers. The pamphlet on library advertising and publicity which Mr. Charles E. Rush is preparing for the Publishing Board will contain a section on the preparation and handling of newspaper articles. Some librarians need a little coaching on how to write a news "story," how to give it the necessary "punch" to "put it across," and this Mr. Rush's pamphlet will try to give.

Field work.—The rapid development and growth of work at headquarters is making it increasingly difficult for the secretary to be absent very long from the office. This last year he attended the N. E. A. conference—Library section, in St. Paul, in July, the Illinois Library Association annual meeting in Springfield, the Atlantic City meeting in March, and lectured before the Iowa and Indiana summer schools and at Western Reserve, New York State Library School, Library School of the New York Public Library, Pratt Institute and Pittsburgh. Short and informal talks have also been given in Chicago, including at the biennial of the General Federation of Women's Clubs last June, and the spring meeting, April, 1915, of high school teachers at the University of Chicago, at which he talked to the manual training section.

The secretary was one of the American delegates appointed to the proposed Oxford Pan-Anglican conference of September, 1914, but on account of the European catastrophe, this gathering was not held.

The Association was instrumental in helping in the organization of the Wyoming Library Association, and Mr. Chalmers Hadley, librarian of Denver and former

secretary of the A. L. A., was the official delegate of the Association to the organizing meeting at Laramie.

Library statistics—Pursuant to the vote of the Council at its January meeting, the secretary sent to chief librarians, who were members of the A. L. A., about 850 in number, the form for statistical reports prepared by the Committee on library administration and adopted by the Council, with the request that a copy be filled out and returned to the A. L. A. headquarters and that the library's annual report contain a statistical page in the recommended form. It is gratifying to notice that a number of libraries have incorporated such a page in their recent reports.

Pursuant also to the vote of the Council, acting on the recommendation of the Committee on library administration, the secretary has printed as a part of his annual report the statistics of those libraries which have submitted their figures on the A. L. A. form. There are 85 of these libraries included in this report.¹ It is hoped that the comparative statistics here provided will be of considerable practical value and service to American libraries. The expense of printing this tabular matter is unfortunately so exceedingly heavy that the secretary feels that in subsequent years a selected list only can be printed, including perhaps the statistics of some 40 or 50 representative and typical libraries in different sections of the country. Statistics of other libraries would be kept on file in the secretary's office, where they could be consulted by those interested.

The reports printed include only statistics of free public tax-supported libraries. The Committee appointed soon after the January meeting of the Council has been engaged in drawing up a form adapted to college and reference libraries, and when this report is in hand, statistics on the approved form will be collected from college and reference libraries.

Miscellaneous.—Photographs of six ex-presidents of the Association have been

added to our headquarters collection; 17 are now framed and hung on our wall. We very much wish every ex-president who has not yet responded to the secretary's urgent request for his photograph would comply.

During the coming year we hope to make a feature of the collecting of books and pamphlets relating to library economy in all its phases. All librarians publishing anything on this subject will perform an appreciated service by sending a copy as a permanent accession at A. L. A. headquarters. We shall be greatly obliged if publishers will put us on their exchange list for material of this kind.

The secretary prepared the article on library activities of the year 1913-14 for the forthcoming report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, and has written the article on the American Library Association for the International Year Book annually for several years past and has supplied data about the association to numerous other publications.

Necrology—Since the Washington conference fifteen members of the Association have passed away. The roll includes some of our oldest members and a number young in years and at the zenith of their physical powers and professional careers. The list follows:

Mrs. Judith Walker Andrews, of Boston, though not a librarian was the mother of a librarian and ex-president of the A. L. A., and had long been deeply concerned in library progress. Joined 1900 (No. 1996) and attended conference of that year. Died Aug. 29, 1914.

Mrs. Sarah A. C. Bond, connected with the Boston office of Library Bureau, died Sept. 19, 1914. Joined 1892 (No. 955), and attended conferences of 1892 and 1902.

Mrs. Henry Draper, of New York city, who joined 1902 (No. 2431), died Dec. 8, 1914. She attended the conference of 1902.

Bernard R. Green, superintendent of the building, Library of Congress, Washington, and an able student of library architecture and equipment, died Oct. 22, 1914.

¹Printed, for typographical convenience, at the end of this report.

Joined 1901 (No. 2145), and attended the conferences of 1892, 1897, 1907 and 1914.

Edna M. Hawley, librarian of the Supreme Court Library, Salem, Oregon, died Feb. 25, 1915. Joined 1903 (No. 2751), and attended conference in 1904.

Thomas J. Kiernan, superintendent of circulation, Harvard College library, died July 31, 1914. Joined 1879 (No. 301), and attended conference of that year.

David R. Moore, librarian of the Berkeley (Calif.), public library, died May 27, 1914. Joined 1905 (No. 3329), and attended conference of that year.

Ada L. Palmer, cataloger in the Buffalo public library, died Mar. 31, 1915. Joined 1914; attended no conferences.

Katharine Lucinda Sharp, founder and for thirteen years director of the University of Illinois Library School and librarian of the University, died at Lake Placid, where she has resided for the past eight years, on June 1, 1914. Miss Sharp was member of the A. L. A. Council from 1895 to 1905 and was vice-president in 1898-99 and again in 1906-07. Joined the A. L. A. 1892 (No. 1023) and attended the conferences of 1892-95, 1897-1904, 1906-07, fourteen in all, and the London International Conference of 1897. See *Library Journal* 39:567; *Public Libraries* 19:287.

Luella M. Sloan, chief reviser of the catalog department in the Newberry library, Chicago, died April 20, 1915. Joined early in the present year (No. 6547), and had attended no conferences.

Jean Terquem, bookseller of Paris, patronized by many American libraries, was killed in battle Sept. 15, 1914. Joined the A. L. A. in 1910 (No. 4795); attended no conferences.

Erastus Swift Willcox, librarian of the Peoria (Ill.), public library since 1891, charter member of the Illinois Library Association, drafter of the bill creating free public libraries in Illinois in 1872, and a member of the A. L. A. since 1892 (No. 944), died March 31, 1915. He attended the conferences of 1897, 1904 and 1908. See *Public Libraries* 20:212.

Miss E. von Wilmonski, assistant in

the reference cataloging division of the New York public library, died Nov. 20, 1914. Joined 1914 (No. 6278), and attended conference of that year.

Euphemia Winans, assistant in the New York public library, died April 29, 1914 (decease not learned until last year's necrology had been compiled). Joined 1898 (No. 1718), and attended conferences of 1898, 1900 and 1906.

Harry Woods, secretary of state of Illinois and ex-officio state librarian, died Oct. 12, 1914. Joined 1914 (No. 6043); attended no conferences.

The following persons formerly belonged to the Association but were not members at the time of their death:

Frederick H. Hild, former librarian of the Chicago public library, died Aug. 10, 1914. Joined 1886 (No. 520), and attended conferences of 1886, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1901, 1903, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908.

Edward P. Judd, bookseller in New Haven, Conn., died Oct. 30, 1914. Joined 1886 (No. 576), and attended conference of that year.

Prof. Thomas Raynesford Lounsbury, professor emeritus of English at Yale University, died April 9, 1915. Joined 1890 (No. 784), and attended conferences of 1900 and 1905.

Minnie M. Oakley, formerly in the Wisconsin Historical Society library, and later in the Los Angeles public library, died Feb. 28, 1915. She joined the A. L. A. in 1886 (No. 545), and attended the conferences of 1886, 1887, 1889, 1893, 1895, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1911.

Margaret A. O'Brien, formerly assistant in the Omaha public library, died Feb. 21, 1915. Joined 1887 (No. 634), and attended conferences of 1891, 1893, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1900, 1901, 1904, 1908.

William Curtis Taylor, formerly librarian of the Tacoma public library, died ——. Joined 1893 (No. 1213).

Talbot H. Wallis, formerly state librarian of California, died July 4, 1914. Joined 1889 (No. 735), and attended conferences of 1889 and 1891.

Dr. Anthony Woodward, first librarian of the American Museum of Natural History, died Feb. 4, 1915. Joined 1892 (No. 968), and attended conferences of 1892 and 1898.

Respectfully submitted,
 GEORGE B. UTLEY,
 Secretary.

NOTES TO FOLLOWING TABLES

1. Atlantic City, N. J., p. 1. (In addition to 2,737 new borrowers registered, 1,065 visitors made deposits for drawing books.
2. Buffalo, N. Y., p. 1. Receipts from "other sources" include bank interest in the sum of \$8,606.95.
3. Chillicothe, O., p. 1. The library is also open to use of residents of the county, numbering 25,492.
4. The item of \$500 noted as "received from other sources" was received from the County Commissioners.
5. Cincinnati, O., p. 1. The amount of \$4,835.28 entered as "unusual expense" was for insurance.
6. Dedham, Mass., p. 1. The statistics of fiction lent are for central library only.
7. Duluth, Minn., p. 1. The amount noted as "received from other sources" includes \$3,000.00 from a tax certificate.
8. Duquesne, Pa., Carnegie f. 1. The statistics of home circulation are for central library only.
9. The librarian's salary includes compensation for club work.
10. The amount paid for janitor service includes such service for the entire building in which the library is housed.
11. Gardner, Mass., Levi Heywood memorial l. The cost of binding is included in the amount expended for books.
12. Hanover, N. H., Howe l. Statistics relating to number of volumes in library are for nine months only.
13. Harrisburg, Pa., p. 1. The amount of \$5,000.00 noted as "received from other sources" was appropriated from the investment fund.
14. Los Angeles, Cal., p. 1. The "unusual expense" of \$10,068.45 was for equipping new central quarters and for removal thereto.
15. Mauch Chunk, Pa., Dimmick memorial l. The sum of \$25,000.00 noted as received from other sources is the legacy of Mrs. Mary Packer Cummings.
16. The item of \$28,483.80 noted as "unusual expense" was money invested.
17. Menominee, Mich., Spies p. 1. The sum of \$749.88 entered as "State grants" accrued from license fees and penal fines.
18. New Rochelle, N. Y., p. 1. The items given under "maintenance" are not representative, on account of removal.
19. Scranton, Pa., p. 1. In the amount paid for "other maintenance" is included the sum of \$3,519.35 for maintenance of branches.
20. Seattle, Wash., p. 1. The amount of \$42,560.11 noted as "received from other sources" represents ten per cent of the city's receipts from licenses, fines and fees.
21. The amount expended for binding includes certain salaries.
22. The salaries for branch janitor service are included in the total of salaries for library service.
23. Somerville, Mass., p. 1. The sum of \$3,252.24 noted as "received from other sources" accrued from dog licenses.